

Artful Afternoon, p.6



ERHS Basketball, p.11



PHOTO BY VIJAY PARAMESHWARAN

On Sunday, March 6, Greenbelters held a vigil in Roosevelt Center calling for peace in Ukraine. About a dozen people held signs against the war. It was part of an international day of action for peace in Ukraine. Similar calls to action also took place in Baltimore, D.C., Philadelphia, and internationally in Prague and Berlin. The next vigil is scheduled for Sunday, March 13 at 2 p.m. and Sundays thereafter for the duration of the war.

Maglev Wins at Maryland Court of Special Appeals

by Donna Hoffmeister

Last Friday, March 4, the Maryland Court of Special Appeals ruled in favor of Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail (BWRR), the developer of the proposed high-speed magnetic levitation train line planned to run be-

tween Baltimore and Washington, D.C. It said that Circuit Court Judge Kendra Ausby erred when she prevented BWRR from condemning 43 acres of land in the Westport neighborhood in south Baltimore. The waterfront prop-

erty is privately owned. BWRR wants the land for either of two potential routes alongside the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

According to the Special Appeals Court, BWRR would need condemnation approval from the Baltimore City Council only if it pertained to public roads or rights-of-way. The Court of Special Appeals said that BWRR got condemnation power when it acquired the former Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis Electric Railroad Co. franchise in 2015.

The court did not agree with another aspect of Ausby's ruling, when she denied condemnation power to BWRR because maglev is not a train. Even though it has wheels that lift like that of a plane, maglev is to be considered a train. The case returns to the Circuit Court which must decide whether the statute of limitations has expired for BWRR to acquire the property through eminent domain. It has been more than four years since the Baltimore City Council approved the transfer of the railroad franchise to BWRR.

Greenbelt Recreation Starts Lifting Covid-19 Restrictions

by Destiny Herbers

Greenbelt Recreation will be lifting several Covid-19 restrictions on Monday, March 21, following updates in guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and policies from Prince George's County.

Recreation facilities, including the Community Center, will return to pre-pandemic hours of operation where staffing permits, and all regular entry doors will be unlocked. Capacity restrictions on recreation spaces will also be removed.

"All the staff is very excited to see more traffic through the building, we're really looking forward to that. We're excited to be expanding more starting on March 21," Community Center Supervisor Di Quynn Reno said.

Spring sessions for in-person and online

classes begin on March 21, and participants must register online. The city also plans to expand rentals of indoor spaces, both paid and unpaid. Space for programming will remain a priority with the rentals, Director of

See COVID, page 8



PHOTO BY AMY HANSEN

Greenbelt Recreation Director Greg Varda is ready for recreation.

What Goes On

Monday, March 14
7:30 p.m. Council Meeting,
Municipal Building

The meeting will be in person. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltdmd.gov for the agenda and information on public participation.

City Creates Website Asking How to Spend ARPA Funds

by Haley Kerby

The City of Greenbelt is asking for input on what services the \$23 million fund, recently allocated to the city by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), should be used for. The funds were given as a relief initiative in response to the Covid-19 public health emergency and its impacts and can only be used for certain functions within the city.

Public health expenditures, like medical expenses and improving behavioral healthcare, can be supported with these funds. Addressing negative economic impacts caused by the pandemic, replacing lost public sector revenue, providing premium pay for essential workers and offering additional support to those who have and will continue to bear the greatest health risks because of their service are possible uses for the funds as well. The funds can also be invested in water or sewer infrastructure and in broadband

infrastructure, including improving access to unserved locations within the city.

As part of a process for determining how these funds will be divided and invested, the city has created a community outreach program and engagement effort to understand how the pandemic has impacted the community and to solicit ideas for investing the funds. Greenbelters can submit suggestions about how the funds should be used at EngageGreenbelt.org. Stories about the impacts Covid-19 has had on city residents are also welcome.

There are also three community input meetings scheduled in person over the next month. The first meeting will take place at the Community Center (15 Crescent Road) on Saturday, March 19 at 10 a.m. The next will be in

See ARPA, page 8

Recycling Center by the Lake Adds Food Scraps Drop-off

by Lesley Kash



PHOTO BY LESLEY KASH

Hank Meyer dumps food scraps at the Public Works Recycling Center by the Lake.

Greenbelt's Food Scraps Drop-off Program makes it easy and accessible for Greenbelt residents to compost their food scraps at the Residential Recycling Center located between Buddy Attick Park and the Public Works complex.

Food waste constitutes about 22 percent of discarded solid waste in America. That waste normally ends up in landfills or gets incinerated. Either way, it releases methane, a greenhouse gas 80 times stronger than carbon dioxide. Waste is filling up our landfills, another reason to divert as much food as possible to a better use.

Composting is an easy, sustainable alternative with a huge value added. Nutrients go back into our local food system when

the finished compost becomes an enriching, natural fertilizer for local farms or gardens, creating a truly sustainable food cycle system.

Because this composting is done in a large-scale, temperature-controlled way, foods and other items that normally can't be used for individual garden composting are welcome. Even meat, fish, poultry, bones, dairy and soiled paper will break down just fine. Caution: a few things are not welcome, such as plastic, excrement, bulk fats or wood ash.

For extra convenience, buckets and caddies to store and transport scraps are available from Public Works. Visit the recycling center at the Public Works building at 555 Crescent Road, or call 301-474-8004 for more information.

Letters to the Editor

What Meetings Are

I echo Johanna Goderre’s excellent comments in her letter to the editor, March 3 issue. The writer(s) of the “Meetings Not Webinars” letter in the previous issue seemed to be confused about what a Greenbelt City Council meeting is. Councilmembers are elected by Greenbelt voters to make important decisions and the meetings are where such decisions are discussed and voted on. Council meetings are not Town Hall meetings.

As Johanna Goderre stated, there is opportunity for a resident to make a point at a Webinar, but there are also many other avenues for residents to make their views known: worksession discussions provide a place to hash out details and challenge assumptions; you can email your opinion or specific, relevant information about an agenda item prior to a meeting (the city website has contact information for all members of council and staff); you can write a letter to the Greenbelt News Review.

The Zoom meeting format led to disruptive, overly long and often ill-mannered discussions. Let’s leave those to family Zoom gatherings.

Sylvia Lewis

The Club, It Works

Each week when I receive this newspaper I am astounded by the long list of stolen cars listed in the police report and am taken back to a fateful day in January 1995 in Hillmeade, Bowie where my daughter Paula and I had moved from the 37 Court of

Ridge Road.

It was on this Sunday morning that I came down the stairs and noticed that my Honda Accord was missing. I called the police and when the officer arrived she informed me that my car was the 21st Honda Accord stolen during the past several weeks. Several nights later my neighbor and I were out walking when I spotted my car with a missing license plate on the front. I sent my friend packing to a neighbor’s house to call the police while I ran into the loop waving my arms and brought the car to a stop while three teenagers bolted. The brakes, gears and tires were ruined, not to mention the burn marks on the dash from a lighter, and a screwdriver embedded in the ignition. I had the insurance company total the car and bought another vehicle. My very next purchase was The Club, a rod which is locked onto the steering wheel making it impossible to drive. Even the sight of The Club would deter any would-be thief. None of the cars listed as stolen each week would have been stolen had this inexpensive device been attached to the steering wheel, and the owners of these cars would not have gone through the horrific trauma and inconvenience of being the victim of an auto thief. No car should ever be left running and unattended so it isn’t stolen too.

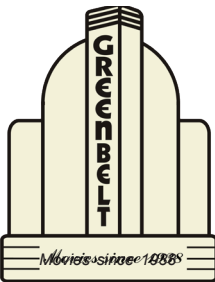
Shelve J. Angle
Hanover, Pa.

Editor’s note: The Club and other steering wheel locks are sold online and at stores.

See **LETTERS**, page 8

Correction

In the interview with Delegate Alonzo Washington in the February 10 issue, Washington was talking about the lack of direct pedestrian access between the Greenbelt Station housing development and the Greenbelt Metro Station. The safety infractions mentioned were identified in a walk along Greenbelt Road he conducted last fall with community leaders and local residents. These issues were reported to State Highway Administration staff. Thanks to Legislative Aide Sam Jackson in Washington’s office for clarifying this misunderstanding.



Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org
Members Always \$6.50!
Member kids are always FREE!
Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student/Military \$8
All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES
March 11 - March 14
PLEASE NOTE WE NOW
HAVE TWO SCREENS:
SCREEN 1 (S1) -
MAIN AUDITORIUM,
CAPPED AT 100
SCREEN 2 (S2) -
THE SCREENING ROOM,
CAPPED AT 20

ANIMATED OSCAR
SHORTS (R) (CC) (DVS)
(2022) (97 MINS)
THE ANIMATED OSCAR
SHORTS PROGRAM CON-
TAINS ADULT CONTENT
AND IS NOT SUITABLE FOR
PATRONS 17 AND UNDER.

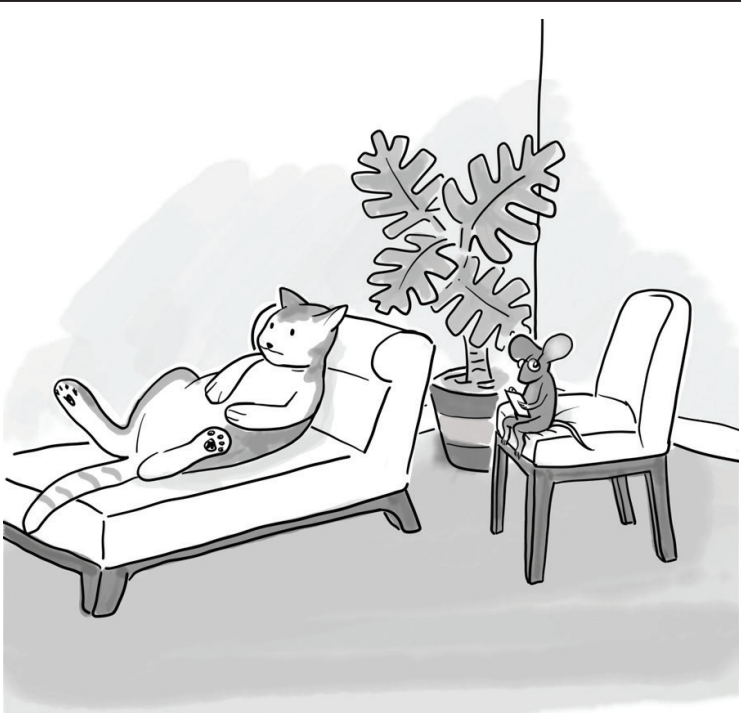
FRI. 8:00 PM **S1**
SAT. 5:00 PM **S1**
SUN. 5:45 PM **S1**
MON. 5:00 PM **S1**

LIVE ACTION OSCAR
SHORTS (R) (CC) (DVS)
(2022) (121 MINS)

FRI. 5:00 PM **S1**
SAT. 5:30 PM **S2**
SUN. 2:30 PM **S2**
MON. 2:00 PM **S1**

DOCUMENTARY OSCAR
SHORTS (R) (CC) (DVS)
(2022) (160 MINS)

FRI. 5:30 PM **S2**
SAT. 7:45 PM **S1**
SUN. 2:00 PM **S1**
MON. 2:30 PM **S2**



Today, I want you to open up more
about the pantry.

- Michael Kusie

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.

On Screen at the Old Greenbelt Theatre

Oscar-Nominated Short Films

(Main Auditorium and Screening Room)

For over a decade, ShortsTV has brought the Oscar-nominated short films to audiences across the globe. This exclusive release features the year’s most spectacular short films and for a limited time is available to watch on the big screen.

Animated Shorts

Robin Robin – Dan Ojari and Mikey Please, UK, 32 min.
Boxballet – Anton Dyakov, Russia, 15 min.
Affairs of the Art – Joanna Quinn and Les Mills, UK/Canada, 16 min.
Bestia – Hugo Covarrubias and Tevo Díaz, Chile, 15 min.
The Windshield Wiper – Alberto Mielgo and Leo Sanchez, USA/Spain, 14 min.
Rated R, running time 97 minutes

This program contains adult content and is not suitable for patrons 17 and under. No minors will be admitted.

Documentary Shorts

Audible – Matt Ogens and Geoff McLean, USA, 39 min.
When We Were Bullies – Jay Rosenblatt, USA/Germany, 36 min.
Three Songs for Benazir – Elizabeth Mirzaei and Gulistan Mirzaei, Afghanistan, 22 min.
Lead Me Home – Pedro Kos and Jon Shenk, USA, 39 min.
The Queen of Basketball – Ben Proudfoot, USA, 22 min.
Rated PG-13 or R for adult themes and topics, running time 160 minutes

Live Action Shorts

On My Mind – Martin Strange-Hansen and Kim Magnusson, Denmark, 18 min.
Please Hold – K.D. Dávila and Levin Menekse, USA, 19 min.
The Dress – Tadeusz Łysiak and Maciej Ślesicki, Poland, 30 min.
The Long Goodbye – Aneil Karia and Riz Ahmed, UK/Netherlands, 12 min.
Ala Kachuu – Take and Run – Maria Brendle and Nadine Lühinger, Kyrgyzstan/Switzerland, 38 min.
Rating equivalent of R for adult themes, violence and language, running time 121 minutes

Community Events

At the Library

The Prince George’s County Memorial Library System is once again teaming up with the Washington Wizards to present the Wizards Winter Reading Challenge through March 31. Prince Georgians can join the fun by participating in challenges for a chance to win prizes. Participants may complete and log activities including reading, watching Wizards games, attending virtual library programs, staying active and engaging with the Library and Wizards. Readers who complete the challenge will be entered into a raffle to win a variety of prizes. All ages are welcome. Register on Beanstack (website or mobile app).

Book Discussion

On Tuesday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m., join friends and neighbors for a lively virtual book discussion presented by the Greenbelt Branch library. The discussion will focus on All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley’s Sack, a Black Family Keepsake by Tiya Miles. Register at pgcmls.info/event/6057095. Copies of this book may be available to borrow. Check the online card catalog, pgcmls.info/Polaris, to see if it’s available or to request it. Visit the Greenbelt Library or contact Ask a Librarian / Biblio Consulta at 240-455-5451 for assistance.

Talk About Autism

On Wednesday, March 16 at 7 p.m., Findley and Chris Talk Truth continues as the two hosts talk with Eric Garcia about We Are Not Broken and autism acceptance. Co-presented with PGCMLS Virtual Library Book Discussion. See pgcmls.info/event/5728296 for details.



Native Plant Work Party on March 12

Help fight invasives and plant natives. The GHI Woodlands Committee is hosting a workday on Saturday, March 12 from 9 a.m. to noon. Their mission is to dig out roots and plant seeds and cuttings in the new propagation area for native trees and shrubs. Meet at the picnic table between 8 and 10 Courts Laurel Hill Road. The group will be working next to the blackberry patch at the woodland edge.

What to bring:

1. A face mask for when in proximity to others. All participants are required to socially distance as much as possible for their safety and that of others.
2. Clothes that cover the skin. Leather gloves and thick pants to protect against scratches are recommended.
3. Bug repellent, hand sanitizer, etc.
4. Tools and equipment will be provided. Extra shovels, rakes or mattocks are appreciated to facilitate other volunteers’ involvement.

For more information, contact BryanBruns@yahoo.com.



Dems Celebrate Women’s History

The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club honors Women’s History Month on Friday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom, featuring Patricia Walker Locke, the country’s first Black woman to graduate from West Point. Locke, who served in the Army and retired as a major after suffering an injury, will be interviewed by Club Secretary James Williams with a Q&A segment to follow. Go to the Democratic Club’s webpage, rooseveltclub.com, to receive the Zoom link.

The club is also producing a Maryland gubernatorial forum, which will be held in person on Sunday, April 3 at 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt American Legion. Dave Zahren will be the event’s moderator. He also served as moderator for the city council candidates forum last October.

Seats for the forum must be reserved at rooseveltclub.com. Note that no more than 200 seats will be available to the public.

Contact Konrad Herling at 301-345-9369 with any questions.

Order More Free Rapid Home Covid-19 Tests

Each residential household in the U.S. is now eligible to order two free sets of four rapid antigen tests. The brief order form, asking for only contact and shipping information, takes just a moment to fill out. The form and more information can be found at COVIDtests.gov. Orders will ship within 7 to 12 (or more) days, with delivery by the U.S. Postal Service.

Garden Club Meets To Assign Plots

The Greenbelt Community Garden Club will have a virtual plot assignment meeting on Wednesday, March 16 at 7 p.m. An email will be sent to returning gardeners with a link to join. New and returning plot holders may download and fill out the application form on the club’s website at greenbeltgardenclub.com.

Relax with Yoga Nidra

Join Greenbelt Unplugged for our Mindfulness series on Sunday, March 13 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. This month, Laura Bonkowski will be guiding a session of Yoga Nidra, also known as “Yogic Sleep” – a very relaxing practice, and quite the personal treat.

The meeting ID is 869 1887 7769 and the passcode is 016110. To avoid typing errors, get a simple link to the meeting by sending an email to events@greenbeltunplugged.org.

Golden Age Club

On Wednesday, March 30, the Golden Agers will meet in person at Schrom Hills Park to celebrate National Take a Walk in the Park Day. All other meetings are still being held on Zoom each Wednesday at 11 a.m. To join the Golden Agers email list and obtain Zoom information for virtual meetings, contact Becky Sutfin at rsutfin@greenbeltmd.gov.

March 16, March birthdays celebration

March 23, virtual BINGO

March 30, walk at Schrom Hills Park; water and snack provided.



Babe Ruth Baseball Signups

Players 13 to 18 years old can sign up for Babe Ruth Baseball by contacting Ian at 240-305-7458. For more information, visit greenbeltbaberuth.com.

Greenbelt Seniors Softball League

The Greenbelt Softball League season is starting for men 60 and over and women 50 and over in good health. See ad on page 6 for more information.

Little League Registration Opens

Play Ball! Greenbelt Youth Baseball Little League is excited to announce that registration is open for the Spring 2022 season for ages 5 to 14. Registration can be completed at gyblittleleague.org.

Those with questions about registration or who are interested in coaching/volunteering should contact greenbeltyouthbaseball@gmail.com.

CHEARS Seeks Garden Volunteers

The Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS) is looking for volunteers to help in maintaining and developing the Three Sisters Garden in Schrom Hills Park, a community garden. For more information, contact Effie Levner, garden coordinator, at 443-415-1053.




GIVES Quarterly Meeting via Zoom

The Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Services (GIVES) office at the Community Center is now open. The quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, March 26 at 10 a.m. Members will receive Zoom information via email. Anyone wishing to attend can call the GIVES office at 301-507-6580 for the Zoom link details.



Yellow Hellebore

PHOTO BY MARY LOU WILLIAMSON




2022 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SUNDAY MARCH 20 at 3pm
via Zoom Video Conference

Greenbelt Access Television will be hosting our **Annual Membership Meeting** over Zoom again this year. Current GATe Members will receive a link for the meeting in advance. Guests are welcome and can request the meeting link by email to greenbeltaccess@gmail.com

GATe Members will be voting to fill two open Board Member positions. If the election is contested, anonymous online voting will take place during the meeting. If you are a current GATe Member and would like to run for an open seat, please submit a photograph and short bio over email to be included in the list of candidates.


Nominations will be open until March 4th at 4pm.

There will be a vote on suggested bylaw amendments. To view the proposed amendments, please visit <https://greenbeltaccessstv.org/proposed-bylaw-amendments>



The 2021 Winners of GATe's Annual Rose Award for Best Greenbelt Community Video will be announced during the meeting!




WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77
FIND OUR PROGRAM SCHEDULE at www.greenbeltaccessstv.org by clicking on Channel



Greenbelt Access Television
Mar 11, Fri – Mar 17, Thu
Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)
Streaming on www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

THIS WEEK on GATe • Your Community Access Station

7am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
8am	Democracy Now!	Yesterday's Syndicated Program
9am	GATe Classic Film • Mystery	And Then There Were None • 1945
11am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
Noon	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
1pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Beacon Heights v Laurel Elementary
2pm	Music at the New Deal	Channel Volatile • Industrial Darkwave
3pm	GATe Classic Film • Mystery	And Then There Were None • 1945
5pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Beacon Heights v Laurel Elementary
6pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
7pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
8pm	GATe Classic Film • Mystery	And Then There Were None • 1945
10pm	Music at the New Deal	Channel Volatile • Industrial Darkwave
11pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
MN	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming

Connect with GATe    www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

Obituaries

Lillian Hodges



Lillian Hodges

Lillian “Lee” Hodges, 89, died peacefully at home on March 2, 2022, surrounded by her family. Lee had lived in the Greenbelt/College Park/Glenn Dale area for the past 80 years. Her first home was on the site of the current Kentucky Fried Chick-

en across from Beltway Plaza. She was a member of the Firemen’s Friends bowling league for more than 25 years. Later in her life, she enjoyed visiting Maria’s Beauty Shop in Roosevelt Center and lunching at the American Legion. Lee and her girlfriends enjoyed visiting local casinos whenever they got a chance. Lee is survived by her brother Fred Ropko, her two daughters, Caren Hodges Christopher and Sylvia Hodges Hester, and her husband Donald C. Christopher, DDS. She is also survived by her four granddaughters, Rebekah, Elizabeth, Rachel and Courtney, and the loves of her life, her great-grandchildren, Landon, Shelby, Chase, Adelaide and Stella. Burial was at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Silver Spring on March 9, 2022.

Community Church Re-opening Sunday

Greenbelt Community Church United Church of Christ (GCC) is re-opening for in-person worship starting Sunday, March 13 at 10:15 a.m. The Rev. Mark Granfors-Hunt will be officiating. All are welcome, regardless of prior religious affiliation or background. GCC is an open and affirming church. A handicapped access ramp is available. The church, located at 1 Hillside Road, will also continue to make its services available by Zoom link for members and regular attendees and by Facebook for visitors at GCC. Though vaccination is encouraged, proof is not required and no one will be turned away. Masks will be worn during the service and social distancing will be maintained. Ushers will assist with seating. Bulletins, hearing devices, hand sanitizer, wipes, prayer cards, etc. will be available for pickup. Hymns will be printed in the bulletin. Sunday school and nursery service will be available during the service. Fellowship will be held after services in the downstairs Social Hall. Pre-packaged snacks and coffee/tea will be available.

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present. You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.



Our condolences to the family and friends of Lee Hodges, a familiar face for many years around the Roosevelt Center and American Legion. Congratulations to Greenbelters Eugenia Kalnay and Claire Parkinson who are celebrated in the Washington Post's Capital Weather Gang post describing six women in atmospheric sciences: washingtonpost.com/weather/2022/03/08/women-science-celebrate-atmospheric-meteorologist/. Kalnay's work helped create the NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis data set that shows a snapshot of the atmosphere on any given day back to 1957. See also greenbeltnewsreview.com/issues/GNR20181227.pdf describing more recent endeavors. She is a University of Maryland distinguished professor. Parkinson works at NASA Goddard and is known for her work on sea ice, satellite observation, and climate change in the polar regions. Of interest: The community platform BoredPanda posted 61 vintage photos of grocery stores and Greenbelt is featured five times. #11, #24, #34, #44, and #54 (see boredpanda.com/vintage-grocery-stores-usa-old-pictures). Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.




Eugenia Kalnay



Claire Parkinson



Lenten Roses (Hellebore)



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY of GREENBELT

During the pandemic, we gather VIRTUALLY for Liturgy of the Word Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For ZOOM link: FDeBernardo@aol.com

Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered Biblical & Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD

www.greenbeltbaptist.org



The Bible Says...

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalm 46:1



IN PERSON Sunday Worship Services 10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School

MCFcc.org



Whoever you are and wherever you are on your Spiritual journey, you are welcome HERE.



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST God is still speaking.

In-Person Worship Has Resumed Sunday at 10:15 AM

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD

www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.


www.sthughofgrenoble.org



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors


Find us on  [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-9410

Reverend Rivera, Pastor


In-Person Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

The hurrier I go the behinder I get.



“Arise and, armed with the power of Faith, shatter to pieces the gods of your vain imaginings, the sowers of dissension amongst you. Cleave unto that which draweth you together and uniteth you.”

– Bahá’u’lláh



Greenbelt Bahá’í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

All services and activities are currently virtual

For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org

Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism



Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi

Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

March 13 10 a.m.

Renewing Our Faith

Today we are invited to worship with Davies Unitarian Universalist Congregation!

Their multi-platform service is at 10:30am. Here is the service description:

With COVID numbers decreasing and spring on the way, we find ourselves stepping cautiously into a new world. In this opportunity for renewal, we remember the wisdom of our namesake, Rev. A. Powell Davies, who called us to have “faith in life’s essence, in its hidden meaning, in its moral claim, and in the rightness of its inner spiritual guidance.” Join us onsite in the Davies sanctuary or online.

Details for joining Davies online will be available in this week’s ContinUUum or at daviesuu.org.



Mowatt Church to Host Bellapalooza Saturday

Ecumenical Joy Ringers Handbell Choir will conduct an Open House on Saturday, March 12, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church.

Attendees will get to hear the bell choir ring a few favorite pieces, see what the bells look like and how they are rung – and even put on a glove and ring a bell or two themselves.

The Ringers are always looking for new members – all ages are welcome, from 8 to 98. Current members come from as near as Greenbelt and New Carrollton, and as far away as Manassas, Va. The group rehearses on Tuesday evenings at Mowatt. No prior experience is required; members just have to know how to count to four.

The group strives to be truly ecumenical – all faith backgrounds are welcome. Coming from diverse congregations, the Ringers record pieces and the footage is available for use during worship and on their Facebook and YouTube channels. The Ringers have also appeared in the 2021 Labor Day Festival and on Greenbelt Access Television.

Contact Director Amy Murray-Kraft at stjohnmusic.riverdale@gmail.com with questions.

City Notes

Horticulture/Parks removed winter equipment from tractors, installing mowers and canopies. Building Maintenance wired the Police Station for a new HVAC system. Refuse/Recycling collected 23.80 tons of refuse and 9.11 tons of recyclables.

Sustainability offered an invasive species workshop and, helped by 17 Eagle Scouts, removed six cubic yards of invasives and caged 40 trees. After welcoming a stray dog, Animal Shelter residents are 10 cats, a kitten and three dogs.

The Museum offers house and walking tours free until May. Greenbelt's Concert Band is again rehearsing at the Community Center. The Aquatic & Fitness Center hosted Fire/EMS water training.

Arts staff and the Arts Advisory Board met with the Pottery Group, The SPACE, Friends of New Deal Café Arts and Greenbelt Arts Center about Recognition Group applications.

Therapeutic Recreation delivered meals to 23 seniors. One family received financial assistance. One eviction notice was received in central Greenbelt.

Park rangers facilitated two Girl Scout troop meetings at Schrom Hills Park.

Donate Sneakers For People in Need

The Board of Congregational Life at Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ (GCC) is collecting athletic shoes by partnering with GotSneakers. For more information about GotSneakers, go to their website at GotSneakers.com.

A donation box is located outside the Fellowship Center (the small building behind the church) for people to drop off sneakers at any time. GotSneakers will pay GCC a varying amount for name-brand and off-brand laced-up sneakers with no tears inside or outside. The company even pays for cleaning and shipping – all GCC does is collect sneakers.



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING Monday, March 14, 2022 at 7:30pm

ORGANIZATION

Roll Call
Call to Order
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Petitions and Requests
Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations
- ACE Educator Award Ceremony
*** Minutes of Council Meetings**
Administrative Reports
*** Committee Reports**

LEGISLATION

OTHER BUSINESS

- Rental Assistance
- Council Activities
- State Legislation
- Council Reports
* Appointment to Advisory Board
* Reappointment to Advisory Boards

MEETINGS

- Meetings
- Stakeholders

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov

This meeting will be in person, and the City will adhere to COVID restrictions. Therefore, space is limited. To register, please visit the City's online meetings and events calendar.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR MARCH 14-18

Monday, March 14 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD MEETING**, *On the Agenda: Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes of March 2, 2022, Hanover Parkway Recommendation Discussion, Budget Recommendations, New Business, Adjourn*

Tuesday, March 15 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES**, *On the Agenda: Call to Order, Review Past Meeting Minutes, Old Business, New Business, Adjourn*

Thursday, March 17 at 7 pm, **PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY POLICING WORKGROUP**

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For information on public participation for the virtual meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov



NO MOW MONTH!

Register today to participate in No Mow Month! You MUST register to participate. Register by March 21, to receive a yard sign.

<https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/public-works/no-mow-month>

GREENBELT CARES PRESENTS THE D.R.A.M.A. CLUB

Dispute Resolution And Managing Anger

Free Adult Group, Ages 18+

Join us online on Mondays, March 14 - May 16 from 7 pm - 8:15 pm

To enroll, send an email to: cares@greenbeltmd.gov

Do you enjoy serving your community? Are you available every third Thursday of the month from 10am to 3pm?

COME OUT AND HELP AS A PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION VOLUNTEER!

To sign up, contact Flora Li at fli@greenbeltmd.gov or (301) 412-2480



Greenbelt Recreation's 2022 Spring Activity Guide has been posted! Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation for more information.

Follow the City of Greenbelt on Facebook and Twitter @cityofgreenbelt! For City information and events visit www.greenbeltmd.gov

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Community Input Meetings

Come and share your thoughts on how the City of Greenbelt should invest its American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

March 19 - 10 am	March 22 - 7 pm	March 29 - 7 pm
Greenbelt Community Center	Greenbriar Community Building	Springhill Lake Recreation Center
15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770	7600 Hanover Pkwy Greenbelt, MD 20770	6101 Cherrywood Ln Greenbelt, MD 20770

COVID-19 MANDATORY INDOOR MASK POLICY

The City of Greenbelt's practice has been to closely monitor and consider county and state COVID-19 policies and practices for implementation in the City. These county and state policies are based upon health guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Maryland Department of Health and the Prince George's Office for Health, Human and Education Services.

Given the most recent guidance, and taking into account our staff and residents desire for notice, effective Monday, March 7, 2022 we will lift the mandatory indoor mask mandate for all visitors entering the City facilities and for all vaccinated employees. Unvaccinated visitors and employees are strongly encouraged to get the COVID-19 vaccination.

CITY WELCOME PACKETS

The City Welcome Packet is back!!! If your business, club, or organization would like to be included in the City of Greenbelt's Welcome Packet, please bring 300 copies of your promotional materials to the Greenbelt Municipal Building, located at 25 Crescent Road, by 3 pm on Friday, April 15, 2022. Packets will be distributed to all new residents of Greenbelt and are a great resource to help promote your business!

For more information, contact Chondria Andrews at candrews@greenbeltmd.gov or 240-542-2026.

WEED WARRIORS: INVASIVE PLANT PULL March 26 | 10 am - 1 pm

Be a part of the community effort to remove invasive plant species from the environment around Greenbelt Lake in Buddy Attick Park. Volunteers will work with Public Works staff to remove invasive vines from native trees and to pull other invasive plant species.

Reminders:
Bring a reusable water bottle
Wear weather-appropriate clothing and closed-toe shoes
Students: bring community-service forms
Must register to participate; limited to 25 volunteers

To Register, email: kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov

FREE TUTORING PROGRAMS

Registration open for K-12

Thursdays 3-5:30pm
6101 Cherrywood Lane

Mathematics, English,
Science, Social Studies

For more information or special accommodation, contact:
(202) 710-6473
dayoku@greenbeltmd.gov

Greenbelt ARPA Funds Assistance Programs Update (as of 2/28/22)

Rent and Utility Assistance
· 242 Greenbelt Households were granted assistance totaling \$946,231.12

Mortgage and HOA Assistance
· 5 Greenbelt Households were granted assistance totaling \$7,999.34

FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION ¡GRATIS! DISTRIBUCION DE VERDURAS

Thursday, March 17
1pm - 3pm

Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road

jueves, 17 de marzo
1pm - 3pm

Centro Comunitario de Greenbelt
15 Crescent Road

GREENBELT EMERGENCY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Greenbelt Nursery Project is supporting Greenbelt families in need of diapers on Wednesday, March 16, 2022.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

<https://forms.gle/78PTcd24R1HnSckc8>

Parents are REQUIRED to bring:
1. State-issued photo ID
2. Proof of Prince George's county residency (mail from a federal, state, or local government agency which displays their name and Greenbelt residential address).
3. Each child's birth certificate

Contact Katherine Farzin
Office: (240) 542-2019
kfarzin@greenbeltmd.gov

DISTRIBUCIÓN URGENTE DE PAÑALES

Debido al impacto de COVID-19, el Greenbelt Nursery Project apoya a familias en Greenbelt con la distribución de pañales miércoles, 16 de March 2022.

SE REQUIERE REGISTRACIÓN

<https://forms.gle/78PTcd24R1HnSckc8>

Los padres NECESITAN presentar los siguientes requisitos:
1. Identificación con fotografía
2. Prueba de vivienda en Greenbelt (correo de una oficina pública o agencia estatal)
Debe demostrar la dirección en Greenbelt
3. Partida de nacimiento de cada hijo/hija

Contacto Katherine Farzin
Oficina: (240) 542-2019
kfarzin@greenbeltmd.gov

Council Discusses State Bills Aimed Toward the Environment

by Matthew Arbach

Stewardship of the environment was the major topic of discussion at the Greenbelt City Council meeting on February 28. Council deliberated on their reactions to current state legislation aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, protecting forests and environmental accountability.

Council voted unanimously to adopt the “No Mow Month” resolution, developed by Bee City USA. Set to coincide with the early spring months, the goal is to support pollinator-friendly habitat through suspending grass mowing and spring leaf-litter removal. Six city areas are designated for no mowing: Buddy At-tick dam and cove, Schrom Hills Park freeplay, the Firefly Sanctuary and Boxwood Forest Preserve. Said Acting City Manager Timothy George, all ballfields and “areas deemed important to public health and safety” will continue to be mowed. Residents who choose to participate in No Mow Month will be spared any code enforcement infractions during this period.

A vote of no position (with the exception of Councilmember Colin Byrd’s vote to approve) was made on HB 806, which deals with building standards and emissions reductions in state and local government buildings, state operations and eligible projects. Resident and Greenbelt Climate Action Network (GCAN) Program Coordinator Lore Rosenthal elaborated on what the bill entails, stating that it hopes to lower emissions in existing government buildings (to 50 percent by 2030 and to zero percent by 2035) as well as to make any new construction all electric. GCAN supports the bill, and Rosenthal indicated that council approved a similar Senate bill two weeks ago.

Councilmember Judith Davis, echoing a no-position vote by the Maryland Municipal League (MML), chose not to support the bill due to the high cost involved for construction, the potential conflict with county zoning and the fact that it was a mandate. Davis said that while Greenbelt may have the funds for such a trajectory, other municipalities may not.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts noted the inefficiency and high level of pollution of fully electric buildings at the present time, adding that until there is an

infrastructure of only renewable energy, such a move would be self-defeating.

HB 876 deals with the establishment of a Maryland Forestry Education Fund, focused on educating and providing resources toward the goal of “healthy and sustainable forests.” Council voted 4 to 2 in favor, with Roberts objecting on the tree-cutting aspect of forestry and Byrd preferring to support it only after input from the Forest Preserve Advisory Board.

Council was unanimously in favor of HB 894, the Transportation Electrification and Modernization (TEAM) Act, because it would enhance the city’s ability, through a grant program, to purchase medium and heavy-duty zero emissions vehicles. Roberts advised that the concept of zero emissions is a misnomer as every vehicle requires emissions and resources in their construction.

A spirited debate was held on HB 596/SB 783, which would create a state constitutional amendment that would ensure every state resident’s “fundamental and inalienable right to a healthy and sustainable environment.” Davis expressed her disapproval, on grounds shared by MML and its municipal attorneys, that the bill has within it the potential for an onslaught of litigation based on personal grievances. Rosenthal, resident and GCAN member Michael Hartman, Byrd and Roberts

felt this was an unlikely scenario, with similar long-standing state amendments not setting this kind of precedent and citing the legal system’s ability to regulate frivolous lawsuits. These four stressed that the bill would give legal recourse to residents to counter state projects that are environmentally destructive.

If the bill passes by a 3/5 margin, it would be voted on in November by residents as a referendum. Council was evenly split on this issue, resulting in no position being taken, with Davis suggesting that individual councilmembers are free to send their own letters of support.

SB 273/HB 275 received total council support, as it would prohibit “using, manufacturing or knowingly selling or distributing” Class B firefighter foam, rugs and carpets and food packaging made using PFAS chemicals. These chemicals never break down and can lead to illness such as cancer.

Council also wholly endorsed HB 150/SB 124, which would mainly seek to create a grant program to school boards of education and public schools to develop and implement programs for reducing food waste and establish composting of pre- and post-consumer waste. Rosenthal indicated that council support would help the bill progress, to make sure it doesn’t “languish and die” before the end of the legislative session.



PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD

A mating pair of hawks have built a nest at the Lake.

Paid Volunteers Needed

to participate in hearing research

You will receive \$12 per hour for your participation!



Who? Persons 18 - 30 years old with normal hearing
Persons 65 - 85 years old with either normal hearing or hearing impairment

American English must be your first language.

Where? Dept. of Hearing & Speech, LeFrak Hall, Univ of MD

What does the research involve? You will be seated in a sound booth and will listen to sentences, tones, or noise bursts. You will be asked to push a button when you hear a particular sound, repeat the words or sentences you hear, or watch a video while we record your brainwaves to the sounds presented.

How long will it take? Initial evaluation (to determine eligibility): 2 hours; pre, post, and training portion = approximately 25 hours.

For more information, please contact:

Ms. Carol Gorham
hearing@umd.edu, 301-405-4236

Artful Afternoon



From left, Corita Waters, Emerson Goddard and Maeve Waters create luminaries inspired by women artists on Sunday, March 6 at a Greenbelt Recreation Artful Afternoon.

- Photos by Amanda Larsen



Elizabeth Gaines displays her colorful luminary.



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apr = annual percentage rate. Rate subject to change without notice. Rate based on credit.

Greenbelt

Seniors

Softball

League

Season is starting

Men 60 and over

Women 50 and over

in good health

Contact

Misty McGill

(240) 444-3261

Jimmy Hoyles

(202) 412-4311

Council Discusses Economic Development Beyond Covid

by Matthew Arbach

On February 23, Greenbelt’s Economic Development Coordinator Charise Liggins unveiled to the Greenbelt City Council a summary of strategic priorities aimed at strengthening, both in the short and long term, the city’s economy, as Greenbelt struggles to move beyond the pandemic and into a sustainable and thriving financial future. The summary was a preamble to an as-yet-to-be-created strategic plan that Liggins stressed would be a community initiative bringing all the city’s departments and residents into a shared vision, in order, said Liggins, “to build back better.”

The summary laid out a three-phase approach. Phase One would build and improve upon the city’s current efforts such as business outreach, organizing networking events, providing technical assistance, promoting local businesses and supporting Covid-19 financial recovery, to name a few. Phase Two would be the strategic plan itself, along with marketing initiatives and workforce development. Phase Three would be the implementation and ongoing monitoring of economic development strategic goals.

Budget funds have been put in place for Liggins to hire an intern to aid in her efforts, with several applications having been received so far.

There was discussion on creating a new advisory board to focus on economic development. Acting City Manager Timothy George raised the question of to whom this board would report, whether to council or city staff. Yet, it was generally agreed that such a group would be of immense help in this area.

A Greenbelt Business Alliance is in the works that would potentially unite all the city’s

businesses in a common cause of growth and survivability. At present, a steering committee of around 12 members is working to bring the concept to reality.

Councilmember Ric Gordon brought up the crucial need for residents to patronize city businesses to stimulate growth.

Liggins spoke about the efficacy of hiring an economic development consulting firm to aid in developing a plan and setting effective goals.

Liggins stressed that specificity was a main focus moving forward, in the areas of workforce development, technical assistance, business needs and financial aid for individual enterprises. She spoke about bringing entrepreneurial and workforce training and opportunities (such as a job fair) to the city, with Councilmember Judith Davis suggesting contribution from institutions like Prince George’s Community College, Bowie State and the University of Maryland.

A Greenbelt Revolving Loan Fund still exists, devoted to capital improvements such as property acquisition, purchase of machinery and equipment. Staff recommends that the current amount of \$140,000 (as of Fiscal Year 2022) be increased to \$750,000 over a three-year period. Yet that amount may change depending on the activity and usage of the funds.

The summary laid out some possible programs in the effort to encourage startup businesses, including: a Greenbelt Online Startup Portal, which would provide needed information and tools; an entrepreneur boot camp; a startup competition; and a start-up resource referral, to strengthen relationships with local, state, federal and nonprofit small business organizations.

Current office vacancy rates

have dropped slightly since June of 2021, with the current average at 12.6 percent, down from 15.1 percent.

The issue of installing individual utility meters at Roosevelt Center buildings owned by George Christacos was re-examined. Tenants now are paying fees not based on their specific utility usage. While the city was supportive of addressing and possibly mediating this concern, George explained that this is a tenant/landlord issue ultimately. Council expressed hope that Roosevelt Center could receive an upgrade in its appearance to attract more customers.

Council was impressed by the comprehensive nature of the set of priorities, with Mayor Emmett Jordan praising it as ambitious. Liggins extolled George for his assistance, based upon his expertise in economic development.

Covid Update: Cases Down All Indicators Now Improved

by Cathie Meetre

Statistical evidence seems to show that our local area has seen the January tsunami of cases roll through and pass. With case rates back to those of last summer, before Delta and Omicron and after many were vaccinated, there’s some reason to be hopeful.

Last summer’s dip in cases still left many people vulnerable – and when the new and more virulent variants arrived, the unvaccinated and partially vaccinated were plentiful and easy prey for the virus. That wise old bird William Shakespeare might well have said, “Some are born with immunity, some achieve immunity and some have immunity thrust upon them.”

Indicators

Hospital capacity remains stable at just under 50 percent, but that’s the normal level rather than a level when all but Covid and emergency patients are being turned away. Knee and hip surgeries and other non-emergency procedures have now restart-

ed and Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center is no longer reporting separately to us on its Covid caseload.

Prince George’s County reporting has caught up with the state and national statistical content. The Prince George’s Covid-19 Dashboard, accessed via a link from princegeorgescountymd.gov/3603/COVID-19-Case-Data, languished between November and the end of February but is now current and the daily update briefing reachable from that page (under the Current Status tab) has been revamped to provide a more comprehensive view of local statistics. New infections for the county are running at about four cases per 100,000 residents per day – consistent with our local ZIP code rate of about one per 23,000 residents per day.

Because the case rate dropped so dramatically, indicators that take a longer view still have average values that seem much higher, but these will gradually come down to match the shorter-term results.

With such promising recent results in hand, this Covid report will be discontinued after today, only to return (though hopefully never) if there is a major resurgence.



Edgeworthia blooms during the winter months.

PHOTO BY MARY LOU WILLIAMSON



New Greenbelt Listings



COMING SOON
8008 Lakecrest Dr.
\$230,000
2 BD | 1.5 BA

Charlestowne Village condo for sale! Completely renovated and updated home is move-in ready and enjoys easy access to Greenbelt Lake and community amenities.

Coming Soon

- Brick GHI end unit with a bedroom and full bath addition
- Block GHI end unit with a half bath addition
- Freshly renovated lower-level GHI one-bedroom
- And a Honeymoon Cottage!

Kim Kash

Realtor®
m 301.789.6294
kim.kash@compass.com

Compass is a licensed real estate brokerage that abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is not guaranteed. All measurements and square footages are approximate. This is not intended to solicit property already listed. Compass is licensed as a Real Estate Broker in DC, and as a Real Estate Broker in Virginia and Maryland. 660 Pennsylvania Avenue SE Suite 300 Washington, DC 20003 | 202.545.6900

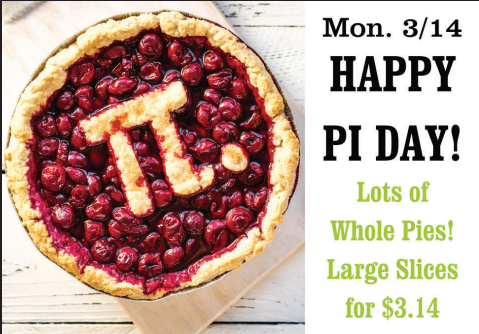
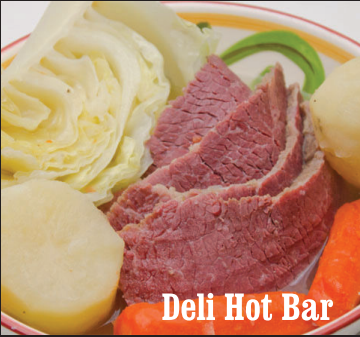
COMPASS

ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVERYONE IS A BIT IRISH!

Something for Everyone!

www.greenbelt.coop

March
17



Enjoy the Luck of the Irish at New Deal Café!

- Corned beef w/Colcannon (Irish mashed potatoes & kale) and roasted cabbage steak
- Vegan - Beyond Meat Brat w/Vegan Colcannon and roasted cabbage steak
- For Pi Day 3/14 - Wilma Bakes Vegan Mini Pies for \$3.14

LIVE MUSIC

3/17 7-9pm

The Pilgrims of Deep Run

Gas Prices Rising



PHOTO BY LESLEY KASH

Gas prices are rising rapidly due to both inflation and the restrictions put on the purchase of oil from Russia after Russia invaded Ukraine.

Letters continued from page 2

Coded Message

As I was walking my 7-year-old to the playground last week, she noticed a flag flying in front of a house stating “Let’s Go Brandon.” Naturally, she read the words on the flag out loud and asked me what I thought it meant. The truth can be uncomfortable at times, and that’s exactly how I felt having to explain to her that this flag was not a sign of encouragement celebrating someone’s birthday (as she guessed it to be). Instead, I told her how this statement is an unkind way for people who dislike our current president to express it publicly. Because she did not understand how such a positive sounding phrase could be disrespectful, I had to tell her how the phrase originated.

While I didn’t want to do this, I was concerned she could repeat the phrase in a casual way without understanding its meaning. I explained to her that what the sign is really saying is “F***Joe Biden.” She’s heard the “F-word” before, and knows it to be an adult word that is often used in a disrespectful or negative way. It is a life lesson for her to learn that not everyone chooses to express their opinions

and thoughts (political or not) in a respectful manner. We talked about other more appropriate ways that one could express their opinions.

I do not expect everyone to like or agree with President Biden, and I know there are Greenbelters who do not support him, just as there were many who did not support the previous president.

I am writing this to draw attention to the fact that this disrespectful sign is being observed by children in our community. What message are we as adults sending to them through proudly waving this flag? Why do we feel the need to hide behind unkind, coded messages? Could we instead display messages that bring us together, or messages that facilitate healthy discussion on our differences?

Rosanne Douglas

Enforce Exhaust Code

Vehicles with modified exhaust systems have become a menace on our public roads. These vehicles – cars, trucks, and motorcycles – are noticeable not only for their noise, but also for their owners’ speeding, racing and erratic driving behavior, leading to a sizeable uptick in sound pollution, unsafe travel for other drivers, accidents and even death.

Muffler modifications are a violation in Maryland (Transportation Code Ann. § 22-609, 2020). Shops doing the modifications and selling modifying parts are in violation of Maryland law (Transportation Code Ann. §

22-610, 2020). These codes are being violated around the clock, on every roadway in Greenbelt, and throughout Prince George’s County.

Only State police have the authority to enforce these codes. Yet in the almost 10 years that I’ve lived in Maryland, I have seen remarkably few state police officers. In my view, enforcement of the codes is likely not high on their list of concerns, especially if enforcement results in dangerous high-speed chases of violators.

Instead, I suggest the codes be enforced by the DMV by adding them to their existing bi-annual emissions inspection requirements. Simple devices can test decibel levels of exhaust systems and inspectors can use undercarriage mirrors to determine if exhaust systems are those of, or modeled on, the original equipment manufacturer. Owners in violation would need to return systems to their original specs to pass inspection and keep their registration to operate those vehicles in good standing.

Tim Mitchell

COVID continued from page 1

Recreation Greg Varda said in the announcement.

Food delivery programming for seniors will not be changing at this time, according to Therapeutic Recreation Supervisor Rebekah Sutfin. “We will definitely bring the Food and Friendship program back, but at this time we do not have a tentative date,” she added.

On Monday, March 7, the mask mandate was lifted for all city facilities, including recreation, one week after the county decided to lift its mask requirements.

“We decided, after talking to staff, we would give a week’s pause just so that we could let

staff and our residents know that it was coming so that nobody walks into our facilities and is surprised that no one is wearing a mask,” said Acting City Manager Tim George.

Signs will be posted at the entrance of all recreation facilities to notify residents of the assumption of the risk of contracting Covid-19 with the policy changes.

Residents are not required to provide proof of vaccination to enter facilities, but recreation staff must show proof of vaccination or a weekly negative Covid-19 test before coming to work, George said. Covid-19 waivers, temperature checks, sign-ins and screening questions will no lon-

ger be required to enter facilities unless they are required by health department regulations for a specific program.

“Any staff member or resident coming into the building who is more comfortable wearing a mask is encouraged and welcome to do so,” George said.

The city will continue to follow Covid-19 mandates and guidance from Prince George’s County Health Department, as well as recommendations from the CDC, Varda said in the announcement.



ARPA continued from page 1

the Greenbriar Community Building (7600 Hanover Parkway) on Tuesday, March 22 at 7 p.m. And the third is scheduled for Springhill Lake Recreation Center (6101 Cherrywood Lane) on Tuesday, March 29 at 7 p.m.

PLAY BALL!

Registration is open for the 2022 Spring Season for Greenbelt Youth Baseball Little League
<http://www.gyblittleleague.org/>

Divisions available for players ages 4 - 14
Evaluations and team selections start in March
Seasons run from April to June

Questions? E-mail us at greenbeltyouthbaseball@gmail.com

Terri Darvish

Senior Loan Officer

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here are from February 28 to March 6. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Note that the times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Robbery
On March 2 at 9:19 p.m. near 7400 Frankfort Place. Victim was robbed by two males wearing all black and armed with black handguns.

On March 6 at 12:52 a.m. near 7800 Hanover Parkway. Victim robbed at gunpoint by unknown individual.

Auto Tampering
On March 2 at 4:01 a.m. near 7700 Hanover Parkway, unknown individuals were in victim's car, fled once she saw them; nothing taken. Near 7800 Hanover Parkway, vehicle rummaged through, nothing taken.

Auto Theft
On February 28 at 12:57 a.m. near 9100 Springhill Lane. Both tags stolen.

On March 1 at 9:45 a.m. near 5900 Cherrywood Terrace. Registration sticker stolen.

On March 2 at 9:24 a.m. near 6100 Breezewood Drive, three vehicles had their right passenger-side windows broken; personal property taken. Near 42 Court Ridge Road, catalytic converter theft: Pontiac Vibe.

On March 4 at 9:56 a.m. near 9300 Edmonston Road, catalytic converter theft: Ford Escape.

Near 7600 Greenbelt Road eastbound, passenger-side front window broken and personal property taken.

On March 6 at 11:00 a.m. near 7700 Hanover Parkway. All four tires and rims stolen.

Break-In
On March 2 at 12:54 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road westbound. Commercial theft.

Disorderly Conduct
On March 2 at 8:21 a.m. near 6400 Ivy Lane. Officers responded to the report of a disorderly subject at the U.S. Attorney's Office. As officers spoke with the subject, an adult female, she made threatening statements. The PGFD's Bomb Squad assisted in searching the subject's vehicle. No explosives were located, there

is no threat to the public and the woman was transported to the hospital for a mental health evaluation.

Dispute
On March 3 at 5:59 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road westbound. Two individuals got in a dispute over wearing masks, which escalated to a bottle being thrown at a vehicle and damaging it.

DUI
On February 28 at 2 a.m. near Hanover Drive/Hanover Parkway. DUI arrest.

Fraud
On February 28 at 11:26 a.m. near 7500 Mandan Road, unemployment fraud. Near 100 Periwinkle Ct., check fraud.

On March 1 at 9:16 a.m. near 5300 S. Center Drive, credit card fraud. Near 9300 Edmonston Road, unemployment fraud.

On March 5 at 1:31 p.m. near 7400 Greenway Center Drive. Victim lost credit card; unknown individual attempted to use card.

Theft
On March 4 at 5:42 p.m. near 5800 Cherrywood Terrace. Theft report.

On March 6 at 8:17 a.m. near 9100 Edmonston Road, catalytic converter theft: Ford Escape.

Near 7600 Greenbelt Road eastbound, passenger-side front window broken and personal property taken.

On March 6 at 11:00 a.m. near 7700 Hanover Parkway. All four tires and rims stolen.

Arrest Alert
On February 24, 2022, Greenbelt Police detectives obtained an arrest warrant for a 16-year-old suspect in the murder of 15-year-old Kareem Wilson, Jr. On March 4, 2022 the suspect was located and arrested by a U.S. Marshal's Service Task Force in Baltimore, interviewed by GPD detectives, and transported to the Prince George's County Department of Corrections.

Court Rules County Must Use Least Changed District Map

by Amy Hansen

The Prince George's County Council will use the redistricting map drawn by the Redistricting Commission and not the map redrawn by the county council and passed by resolution in November 2021, according to the Maryland Court of Appeals.

On March 7, Joseph Getty, the chief judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals, affirming the decision of the Circuit Court on January 31, 2022, ordered that the "redistricting plan prepared by the Commission and submitted on September 1, 2021, ... shall be used for all purposes in acting upon or implementing the county's redistricting plan." The Redistricting Commission's map was a least-change map and will have very little effect on Greenbelt, which is part of District 4.

County Councilmember Todd Turner, who represents Greenbelt in District 4, voted for the redrawn map in November 2021. He commented, "The council will comply with the court's order."

The map passed by the county council on November 20, 2021, had many changes to other parts of the county. Proponents of that map say it would have made District 2 a majority Latino area. Opponents of the plan said it was a blatant attempt at gerrymandering, moving lines so that some councilmembers were outside of the district they once represented.

The map was successfully challenged not because of the accusation of gerrymandering but because plaintiffs said, and the court agreed, that the map had been incorrectly passed by the council through a resolution rather than a bill.

Said Turner, "The county council and I accept the Court of Appeals order on the council's redistricting plan on the narrow grounds of whether it needed to be approved by a bill or resolution." Explaining the use of the resolution, he said, "The council sought to defend county residents' voter-approved 2012 referendum that authorized the use of a reso-

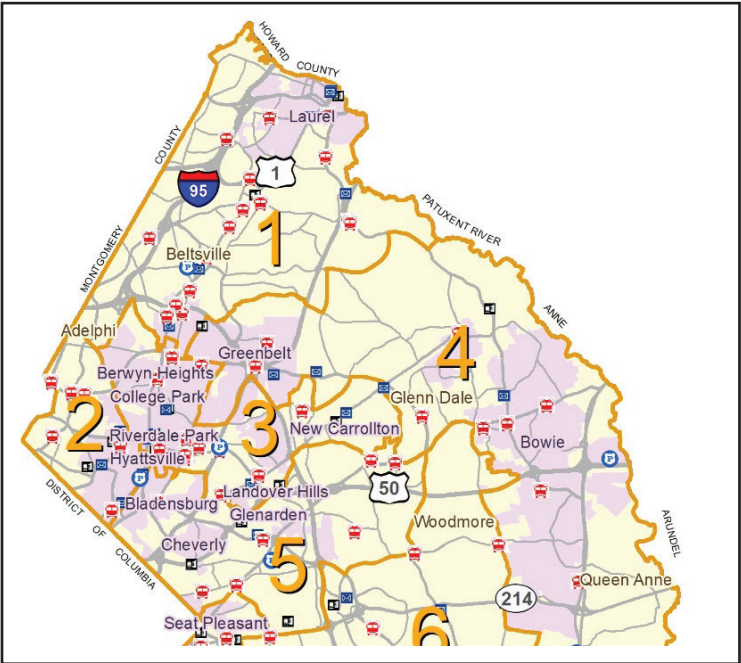


PHOTO COURTESY PG COUNTY

Existing district boundaries

lution in adopting a county redistricting plan."

He added that "the City of Greenbelt, under either the commission or the council plans, was wholly within the 4th County Council District (except for the federally owned Greenbelt Park) and will not be impacted by the court's order."

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PRELIMINARY AGENDA
Meeting of the GHI Board of Directors on March 17, 2022

A. GHI Closed Meeting – begins at 7:00 p.m. (closed to visitors and members)

- a) Approve Minutes of the Closed Meeting Held on February 3, 2022
- b) Proposed Engagement Agreement with an Attorney re: Negotiations with WSSC
- c) Member Financial Matters

B. GHI Open Meeting – begins at 7:45 p.m. (open to visitors and members)

- a) Statement of the Closed Meeting Held on March 17, 2022
- b) Approve Minutes of the Open Meeting Held on February 3, 2022
- c) Report from the Companion Animal Committee Covering the Period July to December 2021
- d) Permit Request to Install a Greenhouse Structure in the Serviceside Yard of a GHI Unit
- e) Draft Investment Committee Report for the Year 2021
- f) Format of Board Meetings After the COVID-19 Pandemic
- g) Review Report of a Membership Survey Undertaken by the Transition Task Force
- h) Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on April 7, 2022

To deter hacking, GHI requires persons who wish to attend the GHI Open meeting on March 17, 2022 at 7:45 p.m. to register in advance by accessing the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/ZUkdO-qj4pEtEwIZ1MeFJuOrDFrydAIOaRT>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting.

To request a sign language interpreter for a board meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).

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BOXED: \$10.60/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15.90). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

OVERPAYMENTS: To properly account for overpayments too small to warrant refunding, the News Review accumulates overpayments of less than \$1.00 and periodically contributes the funds to a registered charity. Once the office reopens, this policy will not apply to payments made in person.

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OGT Opens Second Screen Has Soft Opening This Week

by Melissa Sites



PHOTO COURTESY OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

The Old Greenbelt Theatre second screening room features new green velvet seats.

The long-awaited second screen opens this week at the Old Greenbelt Theatre (OGT), with a program of Oscar-nominated short films. “The soft opening gives us a chance to practice our protocols and let people see the space,” OGT Executive Director Dr. Caitlin McGrath stated. The 40-seat space will open at half capacity, so patrons are strongly encouraged to pre-purchase tickets at greenbelttheatre.org. Two new air filtration systems are in place in the new space, and mask wearing is strongly encouraged.

The viewing room features state-of-the-art projection and Dolby 7.1 surround sound, and the comfortable green velvet seats have an extra inch of padding. The new space is bright and open, with restored terrazzo floors and features a flowing curved wall paneled with vertical hardwood boards, designed by architect Harry Ross of FieldCraft Studios and built by contractor Boaz Yavnai of BY Design. A display wall will feature time capsules of 20th century film ephemera, as well as display panels inspired by the Greenbelt Museum in 2012.

While the new space will give OGT an additional screen for showing movies, allowing the theater to take risks on smaller films that might not draw sufficient audience for the main auditorium, McGrath is most looking forward to the space’s function as a learning center and media lab. OGT has a “mission of providing film education in the region, including classes, workshops, school field trips and hands-on

learning with film,” McGrath stated. “The goal of all the educational content for grades K-12 is to turn kids from passive consumers to active creators with media. We will be looking for ways to get kids engaged with an understanding of how media works.” OGT is exploring partnerships with Greenbelt Access Television (GATe), University of Maryland and MARMIA, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Moving Image Archive.

McGrath expressed gratitude for the strong support OGT received during the pandemic: “We thank everyone who has supported the fundraising for this new space, and who, during the pandemic, believed in OGT and showed their support through popcorn pickups, coming to outdoor movies, making donations and renewing their memberships.” Outdoor movies were a well-attended joint venture with Greenbelt Recreation in the summers of 2020 and 2021.

OGT has operated as a community-based nonprofit since the spring of 2015. The new space became a Pop-Up when the city closed down the main auditorium for renovations in 2019. Because of the pandemic, the theater went dark on March 13, 2020, and was closed for over a year, reopening for private screenings in June 2021, and open in August at 25 percent capacity.

The main auditorium will soon increase capacity to 100 people, removing the coded dots on seats so people can more freely choose where to sit. A grand reopening is planned for May 14.

NASA-owned Forest Wins New Reprieve from Board

by Timothy Wheeler

This article was previously published in the Bay Journal and is reprinted with permission.

The mostly forested NASA property in the headwaters of the Anacostia River that conservationists feared could be bulldozed has won yet another reprieve. The federal Public Buildings Reform Board, which late last year called for the sale of the 105-acre site owned by Goddard Space Flight Center, has decided to hold off on recommending disposing of any government properties for at least three years.

It is the second reprieve for the tract, which NASA calls Area 400. The space agency had declared the land, once used to test rocket fuels, to be “under-utilized” and proposed that it be fast-tracked for sale. The public buildings board, which Congress tasked with identifying federal property to be sold off, then included the site on a list of federal properties it was recommending for sale.

That spurred protests from conservationists, who argued that the federal government should be preserving rather than selling the forested land, both to help protect the Anacostia and fight climate change. Wooded land soaks up rainfall that can carry pollutants into streams, and trees absorb climate-warming carbon dioxide.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has expressed interest in adding the land to its adjoining Patuxent Research Refuge, a 12,800-acre expanse of forest, meadow and woodlands where federal scientists conduct wildlife research. The public buildings board endorsed such a transfer but stipulated that either the service must pay “market value” for the land or it would be sold on the open market. Fish and Wildlife officials and conservationists objected to those terms, and advocates enlisted support from Congress and others to press for a no-cost transfer.

Area 400

Area 400 is almost totally wooded, with a cluster of buildings and sheds in its interior.

On January 27, Area 400 won its first reprieve when the White House Office of Management and Budget rejected the list of properties to be sold, saying the board had not sufficiently documented the costs associated with selling them or the efforts made to solicit feedback on their disposal. The OMB directed the board to resubmit its recommendations by February 27.

A few days before that deadline, the board wrote to OMB, saying that it couldn’t proceed because it no longer has a quorum of members needed to make decisions. In its February 24 letter, the board said it would incorporate the feedback it had received on its initial recommendations and “carry forward” those properties for inclusion in a second round of proposed sales. By law, that second round cannot occur until at least three years after the initial recommendations, which were submitted December 27, 2021.

Jennifer Greiner, manager of the Patuxent Research Refuge, said the deferral “buys a significant window of time for USFWS to continue to work with NASA.”



PHOTO ANNOTATED BY JEFFREY JONES

The fate of NASA's largely forested Area 400 will not be determined for three years.

Staff from the two agencies met in mid-February to discuss and tour the property.

In an email, Greiner reiterated an earlier statement that “we have been and will continue to consult with them on the viability and potential for this parcel – including condition of the property and infrastructure, existence and cleanup of any contaminants, and specific terms of transfer.”

NASA could still seek to dispose of the property through a different legal process, which might also involve an interagency transfer.

“Our next steps, regardless of the method of disposition, remain the same: environmental assessments of the property and relocation or deconstruction of the NASA assets and infrastructure on the site,” said Goddard

spokesman Rob Garner. “We intend to continue discussions with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service colleagues on the topic of Area 400.”

Garner had said earlier that being paid for the site would help cover NASA’s relocation costs, including the demolition of a cluster of buildings and sheds on the site and sampling the soil and groundwater for any previously undiscovered contamination. Having such costs covered would enable Goddard to vacate the property more quickly, he said.

Timothy Wheeler is the Bay Journal's associate editor and senior writer.



Pinewood Derby



PHOTO BY HEATHER NORDEN

Will Wertz, front, enjoys his cub scout Pinewood Derby on Sunday, March 6. The event was held in the basement of the Greenbelt Community Church UCC.



PHOTO BY ANNE GARDNER

Crocuses